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## AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES SECTION

The Agricultural Libraries Section met on the evening of June 21, with the chairman for the year, Malcolm G. Wyer, presiding. In the absence of the regular secretary, W. P. Lewis, librarian of the New Hampshire College of Agriculture, was appointed secretary.

Before proceeding with the regular program the chairman called upon H. W. Wilson to explain the financial status of the *Agricultural Index* which was started a few years ago by the H. W. Wilson Company at the request of the Agricultural Libraries Section. Mr. Wilson stated that the cost of this index far exceeds the income from subscriptions and that some means must be found to decrease the cost or to increase the subscription receipts. This can be done by increasing the number of subscriptions, by increasing the subscription price or by curtailing the scope of the index service. After a thorough discussion in which all testified to the importance and value of the *Agricultural Index* it was voted that a committee be appointed to confer with Mr. Wilson in regard to future plans for the index. The chairman appointed Charles R. Green, W. P. Lewis and Eunice Oberly as members of this committee.

The following program was then given:

The contribution of librarians to agricultural history and research, by Eunice R. Oberly, Librarian, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.;

A study of agricultural library buildings

of various types, by Wm. M. Hepburn, Librarian, Purdue University. In the absence of Mr. Hepburn the paper was read by Alice M. Dougan of the Purdue Library staff;

Agricultural publications in Canada, by Jacquetta Gardiner, Librarian, Ontario Agricultural College;

Latin-American official agricultural magazines, by Chas. E. Babcock, Librarian, Pan-American Union, Washington, D. C.

The last two papers were presented by the chairman in the absence of the authors.

A general round table discussion on the points brought out in the papers followed the formal program and the plans of library buildings on exhibition were examined with interest. Consideration was given to various improvements that should be made in the form of publication of various experiment station bulletins, especially the series numbering, bulletin title, etc. No action was taken but it was suggested that the new officers might take these matters up with the editorial association if thought advisable. A digest and summary of the survey of agricultural libraries had been sent by the committee for the program of this section but the material was not received in time for presentation.

The officers elected were: Chairman, Lucy E. Fay, Librarian, University of Tennessee; Secretary, Mary G. Lacy, Washington, D. C. It was suggested by the Nomination Committee that the secretary might well hold office for two or three years.

## CATALOG SECTION

The Catalog Section met on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon, June 21 and 22, Ellen M. Chandler, of the Buffalo Public Library, presiding. In the absence of Miss Lynch, Miss Howe acted as secretary at the first session and Mrs. Jennings at the second. The general subject of the first session was

### THE CATALOG SITUATION—WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE CATALOGERS

To aid in solving the problem it had been decided to call into council those interested

in library training, and the invitation met with cordial response. The subject seemed to comprise, first, a general survey of the purpose of cataloging and its value to the users of libraries, and, second, the reasons for the dearth of catalogers, and the question of making the work more attractive to those who are competent to do it.

The first speaker was Dr. Archibald Cary Coolidge, director of Harvard University Library, who discussed THE OBJECTS OF CATALOGING from the standpoint of the large public library (Printed in *Library Jour-*